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FM THE SITUATION ROOM//TOMAK 10//

TO BARBIAN FOR THE SECRETARY

T O P S E C R E T SENSITIVE EXCLUSIVELY EYES ONLY CONTAINS CODEWORD  
VIA BLACK PATCH WH01795

TOMAK 10

SEPTEMBER 6, 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR SECRETARY KISSINGER  
FROM: THE SITUATION ROOM  
SUBJECT: INFORMATION ITEMS

SOVIETS KILLING LIVESTOCK IN DROUGHT AREAS: THE SOVIETS REPORTEDLY ARE SLAUGHTERING LIVESTOCK IN DROUGHT AREAS. RESIDENTS OF THE NORTHEASTERN URALS, THE SOUTHERN VOLGA VALLEY, AND KAZAKHSTAN HAVE SAID THAT COLLECTIVE FARMS HAVE BEEN INSTRUCTED TO RETAIN ONLY AS MANY ANIMALS AS THEY CAN FEED THROUGH THE WINTER FROM THEIR OWN FORAGE RESOURCES. REPORTS FROM THESE RESIDENTS ARE USUALLY NEGATIVE; EVEN IF THESE RECENT REPORTS ARE UNDULY PESSIMISTIC, THEY SHOW THAT BELT-TIGHTENING MEASURES HAVE STARTED. GRAIN YIELDS IN THESE AREAS ARE EXPECTED TO BE THE LOWEST ON RECORD OR CLOSE TO IT. FORAGE CROPS HAVE ALSO BEEN BADLY HURT, AND NATIONWIDE OUTPUT IS ESTIMATED AT ABOUT 75 PERCENT OF NORMAL. IT IS TOO EARLY TO FORECAST HOW MANY LIVESTOCK WILL BE KILLED. FOLLOWING THE POOR HARVEST OF 1968, TWO PERCENT OF THE CATTLE AND 42 PERCENT OF THE SWINE WERE SLAUGHTERED. IN 1972, THE IMPACT OF THE POOR GRAIN HARVEST WAS SOFTENED BY LARGE GRAIN IMPORTS; CATTLE HERDS GREW WHILE THE NUMBER OF HOGS FELL ONLY SEVEN PERCENT. BECAUSE OF THE CONTINUING HIGH PRIORITY GIVEN TO INCREASING MEAT PRODUCTION, FORCED SLAUGHTERING THIS YEAR WILL BE THE LAST RESORT, AND THE NUMBERS KILLED WILL PROBABLY NOT EXCEED THE 1972 LEVEL.

NSA review  
completed

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\*\*\*\*\* WHSR COMMENT \*\*\*\*\*

SEC FILE

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ON-FILE NSC RELEASE INSTRUCTIONS APPLY

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CHINESE CAMPAIGN TAKES ON ANTI-SOVIET CAST: PEKING MAY BE SPEAKING WITH TWO VOICES ON THE SCOPE AND CONTENT OF THE NEW CAMPAIGN TO CRITICIZE AN ANCIENT NOVEL. A PEOPLE'S DAILY EDITORIAL OF SEPTEMBER 4 APPEARED TO TAKE A MORE LIMITED VIEW OF THE CAMPAIGN THAN THAT EXPRESSED IN EARLIER ARTICLES. USING A NEW QUOTATION FROM CHAIRMAN MAO, THE EDITORIAL STATED THAT MAO HAD INITIATED THE CAMPAIGN. THIS TARDY REFERENCE TO THE CHAIRMAN AS THE ORIGINATOR SEEMS AIMED AT NEGATING THE IDEA THAT THE CAMPAIGN IS AIMED AT HIM. THE NOVEL'S LEADING FIGURE HAS BEEN ATTACKED FOR FAILING TO OPPOSE THE "EMPEROR," A REFERENCE THAT IS ALMOST CERTAIN TO BE READ BY THE CHINESE POPULACE AS AN ATTACK ON MAO. THE EARLIER ARTICLES DID NOT CREDIT THE CHAIRMAN WITH LAUNCHING THE CAMPAIGN. THE EDITORIAL APPEARS TO DIFFER IN SEVERAL OTHER RESPECTS FROM THE EARLIER MATERIAL. WHILE THE OTHER ARTICLES PROMOTE CONTINUING REVOLUTIONARY STRUGGLE, THE EDITORIAL MAKES A STRONG BID FOR UNITY. IT ALSO RELEGATES THE CAMPAIGN TO A "DISCUSSION" MOVEMENT, NOTING THAT STUDY OF THE NOVEL WILL HAVE A SIGNIFICANT IMPACT ON LITERARY CRITICISM, HISTORY, PHILOSOPHY, AND EDUCATION. THE LATTER COMMENT SEEMS TO DILUTE THE CAMPAIGN'S POTENTIAL AS A POLITICAL ATTACK ON CURRENT LEADERS. THE EDITORIAL MAKES IT CLEAR THAT POLICY TOWARD THE SOVIET UNION IS AN ISSUE IN THE CAMPAIGN AND POINTEDLY NOTES THAT LIU SHAO-CHI AND LIN BIAO CAPITULATED TO MOSCOW. ANOTHER

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ARTICLE BY A PROMINENT CHINESE OFFICIAL SUGGESTS THAT PEKING IS TRYING TO DRAW THE ATTENTION OF THE OUTSIDE WORLD TO THE SOVIET QUESTION AND TO PLAY DOWN THE POSSIBLE EXPLOSIVE DOMESTIC IMPLICATIONS OF THE CURRENT CAMPAIGN. TAKEN TOGETHER, THE ARTICLE AND THE EDITORIAL SEEM TO BE AN EFFORT TO FOCUS THE CAMPAIGN ON THE ISSUE OF "STANDING UP TO THE SOVIETS" -- PERHAPS IN ORDER TO ISOLATE THOSE WHO ADVOCATE A LESS CONTENTIOUS POLICY TOWARD MOSCOW.  
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